



**BALLYORAN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS'  
ANNUAL REPORT**

**2019 - 2020**

**Excellence – Creativity – Integrity**

June 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

As Chairperson of the Board of Governors of Ballyoran Primary School it gives me great pleasure to present you with our Annual Report for 2019-2020.

The 2019/2020 school year was unprecedented and without doubt has been the most challenging year in the school's history because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Unfortunately, school was closed for over three months from March 2020.

Firstly, I want to thank all the staff of Ballyoran Primary School for their hard work, commitment and dedication, frequently beyond the school day. This has been another busy year for staff as the school has continued to provide the best possible education for all its pupils in a very challenging context which included the introduction of Home Learning.

Next, I want to thank parents and guardians for their support throughout the year which is vital in a child's educational development and without which the school could not function effectively. In particular, I would like to thank you for all that you did in support of your child's education through Home Learning and for your patience and co-operation during the very challenging months of school closure.

Thanks must also go to the pupils, without whom there would not be a Ballyoran Primary School, for all that they contributed in making 2019-2020. It was an immensely challenging year for all of our pupils who missed out on so much of normal school life.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the Board of Governors who have faithfully served the school over this past year.

Detailed as this report is, it can only give you a brief insight into the many varied aspects of school life during the 2019-2020 year. Should any parents/guardians need clarification on any aspect of this Report, I would ask you to forward your request in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Governors, Mr Woolsey.

Yours faithfully

Eamonn Fleming  
Chairperson of the Board of Governors

## **Ballyoran Primary School Board of Governors: 2019-2020**

### **Education Authority Representative**

Mr Eamonn Fleming (Chairperson)

### **Transferor Representatives**

Mrs Hazel Loney (Vice-Chairperson)

Mrs Enid Jennett

Rev Christina Bradley

Rev Lucy Burden

### **Parent Representatives**

Ms Ceira Hall

Mrs Sinead Hughes

### **Teacher Representative**

Mrs Roisin McGuire

### **Secretary**

Mr Richard Woolsey (non-voting Member)

The Principal would like to thank members of the Board of Governors for their time, dedication and commitment given voluntarily to the school and their wise counsel and support given to him during a very challenging 2019-2020 school year.

## Responsibilities of the Board of Governors

The main responsibilities of the Board of Governors are:

- The implementation, delivery and oversight of the curriculum.
- The management and control of the allocated budget.
- The provision of information for parents.
- The recruitment and selection of staff.
- The maintenance of the premises (Shared responsibility with the Education Authority).
- The Admissions Policy.
- The fostering of links with the local community and pursuing the objectives of Mutual Understanding.

The Board of Governors is ultimately responsible for the overall management of the school. It is required to meet a minimum of 3 times during the year (once every term), but during the 2019-2020 school year it met 14 times either as a full board or sub committee. The dates of the meetings were as follows:

### **Full Board:**

12<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
24<sup>th</sup> October 2019  
5<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
30<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
12<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
25<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### **Staffing/Finance Sub Committee:**

12<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
25<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### **Appointments Sub Committee**

9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 x 2  
22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 x 2  
12<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
26<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**School Staff  
2019-2020**

**Teaching Staff**

**Member of Staff**

**Class/Responsibility**

Mr R Woolsey	Principal
Mrs R McGuire	Vice Principal
	Yr 5 teacher, Key Stage 2 Co-ordinator, SENCO, Designated Teacher, Literacy Team
Mrs F Mulholland	Nursery 1, Nursery Co-ordinator, Deputy Designated Teacher
Mrs L Baxter	Nursery 2 (Job Share)
Mrs K Wells	Nursery 2 (Job Share)
Mrs A Biggerstaff	Yr 1, ICT Co-ordinator
Mrs H McConville	Yr 2, Foundation Stage Co-ordinator, Shared Education Co-ordinator, ICT Co-ordinator, Teacher Tutor
Mrs C Totten	Yr 3, Art & Design Co-ordinator
Mrs A McCreesh-West	Yr 4, Key Stage 1 Co-ordinator, Music Co-ordinator & RE Co-ordinator
Miss H Abraham	Yr 4, Literacy Co-ordinator & Sustrans Co- ordinator
Miss M McKernan	Yr 6, PDMU Co-ordinator, Literacy Team, Charity Co-ordinator
Mrs S Brown	Yr 6 (Job Share), Numeracy Co-ordinator
Mrs L Martin	Yr 6 (Job Share), Playground Co-ordinator
Mrs L Walker	Yr 7 (Job Share), World Around Us Co-ordinator
Mrs B Heaney	Yr 7 (Job Share), Deputy Designated Teacher, Drama Co-ordinator, Library Co-ordinator
Mr R Hendron	LSC, PE Co-ordinator, SEN Team
Mrs K Barkley	Intensive Support Teacher, Assessment Co- ordinator, SEN Team

**Auxiliary Staff**

Mrs M Bell	Nursery Assistant
Miss E Dudek	Nursery Assistant
Miss J Carson	Classroom Assistant
Mrs S Glavin	Classroom Assistant
Mrs N Stewart	Classroom Assistant
Mrs A McKenna	Classroom Assistant
Mrs N Fusco	Classroom Assistant
Mrs T Smyth	Classroom Assistant
Ms S Foster	Classroom Assistant
Miss V Gordon	Classroom Assistant
Mrs C Thompson	Classroom Assistant
Miss A McCracken	Classroom Assistant
Mrs R Mayers	Secretary

**Ancillary Staff**

Mr P Creaney	Building Supervisor
Miss S Henderson	Cleaner
Mrs M O'Connor	Cleaner
Mrs D Larkin	Cleaner
Mrs T Lawless	Cleaner
Mrs M Cusack	Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant
Mrs J Breen	Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant

**School Meals Kitchen Staff**

Mrs D Campbell	Unit Catering Supervisor
Mrs E Murphy	Cook
Mrs D Rowney	Catering Assistant
Mrs S Dobrowolska	Catering Assistant

We said farewell to a number of Classroom Assistants during 2019-2020: Mrs Fusco, Mrs McKenna, Mrs Good, Mrs Breen and Miss McCracken. We say thank you to them for all that they have given to the school over many years and wish them well in their new jobs.

**Thanks**

**The Board of Governors would like to thank the Principal and all the Staff for their hard work and dedication during what was an extremely challenging year due the Covid-19 Pandemic. They appreciate the efforts of the entire staff who contribute so effectively to the smooth and safe running of a happy school.**

## **Vision, Aims and Mission Statement**

### **Mission Statement**

Excellence, Creativity, Integrity

### **Vision**

As a welcoming, Inclusive School we aim to provide a safe, happy, caring and stimulating learning environment which will enable each child to develop to his or her full potential - academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually, in preparation for becoming responsible citizens.

We celebrate each person as an individual and as a valued member of our school and wider community.

In an atmosphere of tolerance and trust, we actively encourage respect, self-worth, independence, team spirit, imagination, creativity and fun.

### **Aims**

- 1) To fulfil the school vision by developing each child as:
  - an individual
  - a contributor to society
  - a contributor to the economy and environment.
  
- 2) To develop in each child the following skills:
  - Communication
  - Using Mathematics
  - Using ICT
  - Thinking skills
  - Managing information, problem solving and decision-making
  - Being creative, working with others and self management.
  
- 3) To foster the following attitudes and values:
  - Personal responsibility
  - Self-confidence
  - Tolerance and respect for others
  - Commitment, determination and resourcefulness
  - Community spirit
  - Integrity

- Independence
- Openness to new ideas.

Ultimately to provide stimulating, relevant and enriching learning experiences with equality of access for each child so that they may develop an enthusiasm for learning as a lifelong process.

## 2019-2020 Calendar of Events

Many events, interwoven through the Curriculum, reflect the variety of activities the pupils experienced throughout the school year. It should be noted that the list below is not exhaustive.

### Autumn Term

- Swimming: Years 5 – 7
- Young Enterprise
- European Day of Languages
- Gaelic Coaching
- Book Fair
- Key Stage 2 Healthy Kids
- Pupil Council Meetings
- Flu Vaccinations
- Parent/Teacher Meetings
- School Christmas Card Competition
- Credit Union Poster Competition
- Mobile Library Visit
- Year 5 Fire and Rescue Service Visit
- Individual and Family Photographs
- Tharp Family from USA Visit
- Bun Sale for Children In Need
- Nursery Football Coaching session
- Anti-Bullying Week
- Dental Visit to LSC
- Mackey Eye Care visit to Nursery
- Year 2 Visit to Fire Station
- West Midland Theatre Company Show
- Year 7 Taster Day at St John The Baptist College
- Year 7 STEM Day at Brownlow College
- Years 1 – 7 Christmas Pantomime - Market Place Theatre, Armagh
- Parents & Friends Christmas Draw
- Canteen Christmas Dinner – pupils and staff
- Jo Jingles in Nursery
- Nursery Extended Schools Visit to W5
- Christmas Performances
- Christmas Disco
- Choir and Instrumental Ensemble to Rosemount Care Home, Carol Service in St John's Church
- Christmas Jumper Day
- Christmas Post
- Parents & Friends Christmas Parties

## Spring Term

- Transfer Talks and Open Days/Nights
- Credit Union Quiz
- Years 6 & 7 'Your Life' Workshops
- Swimming – Years 5 - 7
- Shared Education
- Pupil Council Meetings
- Parents & Friends Meetings
- Key Stage 2 Healthy Kids
- Catholic Schools Week Mass
- Young Enterprise
- Diocesan RE Visit
- Safer Internet Day
- Nursery Soccer Coaching Session
- World Book Day
- Confirmation
- Literacy, Numeracy and Mental Health Parents Workshops
- Jo Jingles in Nursery
- Class & Group Photos

Unfortunately, the school year was cut cruelly short in March when all schools were closed because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

## Staff Development

### Use of Baker Days & School Development Days 2019-2020

Date	Type of Day	Inset	Venue
July/August 2019	Baker Day - Floating	Classroom Preparation	In School
27/08/19	Baker Day	Classroom Preparation ICT Development	In School
28/08/19	Baker Day	Classroom Preparation School Leadership Team Meeting	In School
29/08/19	Baker Day	Centralised Health Awareness Training Staff Meeting Classroom Preparation	In School
30/08/19	Baker Day	RISE Training Classroom Preparation	In School
26/09/19	School Development Day	Target Setting	In School
27/09/19	School Development Day	ICT Development	In School
30/09/19	School Development Day	Introduction to Restorative Practice Planning, Preparation & Assessment	In School

Staff were involved in the following training and development during the 2019-2020 school year. A more specific list of which members of staff were involved in training is kept by staff members and the Principal:

- Literacy
  - Boosting Reading
  - Phonics
  - Comprehension
  
- Numeracy
  - Developing Mathematical Thinking Skills in Foundation Stage
  - Problem Solving
  
- ICT
  - Green Screen
  - Sound
  - Office 365
  - SIMS Interventions

- Nursery & Early Years
  - Nursery Conference
  - Nursery Cluster
  - Playful Learning
  
- SEN
  - ASD
  - Literacy Difficulties
  - SEND
  - Multi-Sensory Numicon
  
- Leadership
  - Co-ordinator Training
  - Leadership Conferences
  
- Assessment
  - Observations in Foundation Stage
  
- Pastoral Care
  - Introduction to Restorative Practice
  - Designated Teacher Child Protection Refresher
  - Safeguarding
  - Bereavement & Loss
  - Critical Incidents
  - Nurture
  
- Health & Safety
  - Centralised Health Awareness Training
  - First Aid at Work

### **PRSD**

No PRSD took place during 2019/2020 because of the pandemic.

### **Governor Training**

Governors completed the following training during 2019/2020:

- Child Protection for Designated Governors – Mrs Loney
- PRSD – Mrs Loney

## **The Curriculum**

Under the Education Reform Order, the responsibility of the Governors for the curriculum, ie. what is taught in school, has been increased. The Governors' control of the curriculum is, however, more apparent than real as much of what is taught has now been determined by law in the form of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. Generally, the day-to-day organisation of the curriculum remains the Principal's responsibility.

A broad and balanced learning experience is provided for all pupils attending Ballyoran Primary School. This has been achieved through the efforts of the Principal, Vice Principal, School Leadership Team, Subject Co-ordinators and Teachers spending many hours in discussion and planning to produce Policies and Schemes for use in the classroom and ensuring that classroom practice gives pupils the best learning opportunities possible.

The Curriculum Development Programme involved In-service Training, both inside and outside school on Baker Days, School Development Days and Directed Time throughout the year. The Programme involved all members of Staff working individually, in year groups, in key stage groups or as a whole staff team as appropriate and was supported by EA Advisers and other outside agencies.

The Northern Ireland Curriculum aims 'to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives.' It has three objectives:

1. To develop the young person as an individual
2. To develop the young person as a contributor to society
3. To develop the young person as a contributor to the economy and environment

The Cross Curricular Skills which underpin all teaching and learning are Communication, Using Mathematics and Using ICT, as well as Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities.

There are seven Areas of Learning in the Northern Ireland Curriculum:

1. Language & Literacy
2. Mathematics & Numeracy
3. The World Around Us
4. The Arts
5. Personal Development and Mutual Understanding
6. Physical Education
7. Religious Education

### **Language & Literacy**

The significant actions in sustaining and developing the good practice in Literacy included the implementation of a new approach to the teaching of handwriting.

### **Mathematics and Numeracy**

The significant actions in sustaining and developing the good practice in Numeracy included the development of practical maths sessions.

### **ICT**

The significant actions in sustaining and developing the good practice in ICT included working in partnership with the Amma Centre to develop the use of ICT in all classrooms and further develop children's ICT skills throughout the school. E-safety continued to be an important part of our ICT curriculum. It is incorporated into our monthly ICT planners and Key Stage 2 continue to deliver regular e-safety assemblies to their peers. We highlighted its importance this year through Safer Internet Day in February. Our ICT suite continues to be an excellent learning environment for pupils and we continue to run our ICT club after school. We continue to endeavour to extend our ICT resources and six new Interactive Panels were installed.

### **World Around US**

The main focus during the school year 2019/20 was to embed outdoor learning opportunities within WAU and other areas of the curriculum.

### **PDMU**

Personal Development and Mutual Understanding was delivered to all pupils during the academic year using the Living, Learning, Together resource. Years 2 – 6 took part in the Young Enterprise Programme. Year 6 were also introduced to the 'Business Beginnings' Programme.

### **The Arts**

Pupils received lessons in the Arts which comprise Art and Design, Music and Drama.

#### **Art & Design**

All pupils received lessons using a variety of different Art media e.g. paint, charcoal, pastels, fabric and clay. The focus for the year was staff evaluation of classroom practice in the light of their planning and teaching and the increase of teacher confidence in the teaching of Art and Design.

#### **Music**

Music continued to play a significant role in Ballyoran Primary School, with upper strings and woodwind Tutors from the Education Authority Music Service providing pupils with opportunities to play violin, viola, cello, clarinet and flute.

## **PE**

The PE scheme continues to be in operation for Years 1 – 7. Following the Northern Ireland Curriculum, pupils do activities in Athletics, Dance, Games and Gymnastics. Swimming instruction was provided again for Years 5 - 7 children throughout the year at Cascades Leisure Centre. Pupils continued to benefit from Healthy Kidz and The Daily Mile.

## **RE**

Children in Years 1-7 followed the 'Grow in Love' Programme. Children whose parents choose to attend alternative RE class have been covering a selection of Bible stories.

## **Nursery**

There are two classes within the Nursery Unit, each class has 26 children, a teacher and a classroom assistant.

In Ballyoran Nursery, staff continued to plan the indoor and outdoor curriculum to develop the children's six areas of learning:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
2. Language Development
3. Physical Development
4. The Arts
5. Early Mathematical Development
6. The World Around Us

The following development took place during the 2019-20 school year:

- Development of planning, observations and evaluations
- Development of pre writing skills
- Development of The Big Bedtime Read

The Nursery continued to foster strong links with the local Blossom Sure Start. Jo Jingles visited the Nursery on three occasions. 'The Music and Movement Experience' programme was aimed at developing the children's rhythm. We also had another music workshop called 'Crotchets and Quavers'. Coach Chris also visited the Nursery to help the children to develop their football skills. The Nursery enjoyed their outings.

## **Special Educational Needs**

The good practice within SEN continued throughout the 2019-2020 academic year:

- Pupils were assessed by the Educational Psychologist
- Pupils received teaching support from the SPLD team
- Outside agencies worked with children at Stage 3 of the Code of Practice
- Staff attended training on ASD and Literacy Difficulties.
- The SENCo attended training sessions on the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (SEND)

## **Assessment and Reporting**

- The normal Assessment procedures did not take place due to the pandemic.
- A revised End of Year Annual Report was sent home to parents.
- Staff training on PASS was completed.
- Review of Marking Policy.

## **2019-2020 Statutory End of Key Stage Assessment Results**

Due to the pandemic this assessment was not completed.

## **Pastoral Care, Safeguarding & Child Protection**

During the 2019 – 2020 school year the following developments took place:

- Child Protection Policy reviewed
- Staff Safeguarding and Child Protection Training
- Drugs Policy Reviewed
- RSE Policy Reviewed
- Centralised Health Awareness Training
- Designated Teacher Refresher Training
- ETT Safeguarding Pro Forma completed
- Bereavement & Loss Training
- Critical Incident Training

## **Pupil Council**

The Pupil Council continued to meet on a monthly basis on Wednesday afternoons with Mrs Totten. The members for 2019-2020 were as follows:

Yr 7: Owen Reynolds & Joab Silva  
Yr 6B/M: Henrique Fialho & Nadia Knop  
Yr 6McK: Emma Creaney & Roisin McAleese  
Yr 5: Jude Hall & Miguuela Guterres  
Yr 4A: Goda Valiute & Daniela Norusaite  
Yr 4McCW: Courtney McGeown & Noah Wilson  
LSC: Donald Lucas & Ryan-Lee Flynn

Chairperson: Owen Reynolds  
Vice Chairperson: Donald Lucas

## House System

The House Competition continued during the 2019 - 2020 school year. All of the pupils in Years 1 – 7 are placed in one of the following houses:

1. Bann
2. Lagan
3. Foyle

Points are given out by staff and recorded on a weekly basis on the Display Board in the Assembly Hall. A cup was presented to the winning House on a monthly basis in assembly and the overall winner recognised at Prize Day in June. Pupils elected a Captain and Vice captain for each House as follows:

House	Captain	Vice Captain
Bann	Owen Reynolds	Rachel Mallon
Foyle	Caoimhe O'Connor	Nadia Knop
Lagan	Joab Silva	Eva Williamson

## Eco Committee

The following pupils were elected onto the Eco Committee for 2019 – 2020 :

- Yr 7 : Roxana Rosca & Blathnaid Moylan  
Yr 6B/M : Brooke McGeown & Caitlin Kelly  
Yr 6 McK : Eva Williamson & Shea Mulholland  
Yr 5 : Miguela Guterres & Corey Simpson  
Yr 4A : Nuria Encada Pires & Daniela Norusaite  
Yr 4McCW : Ollie Byrne & Maisie Millar

## Enrolment

Enrolment at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Nursery	Primary	LSC	Total
52	203	3	258

## Attendance

Attendance continued to be a priority for improvement on the School Development Plan. The School continues to promote the DE Policy – ‘School Attendance – Every School Day Counts.’

The school closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic had a major impact on school attendance. The average Attendance % for 2019 - 2020 was 90.2%, a drop of 1.8% on the previous year.

Well done to the following 24 pupils, who did not miss a day at school during 2019 – 2020, this was an increase of 30% on the previous year:

- Caitlin Corrigan
- Fionn Larkin
- Rory Magalhaes
- Sophia McCann
- Emma Corrigan
- Ismaela Gomes
- Jake Kelly
- Jamie McNeice
- Sophia Metcalfe
- Ollie Byrne
- Yuran Mendes
- Maisie Millar
- Kacper Skwara
- Alan Debowski-Zacharski
- Albert Tutianu
- Ava Bradley
- Shea Mulholland
- Razvan Rosca
- Nayara Sanches Mendes
- Filip Zaliwski
- Issey-Mae Byrne
- Brendan Ferreira
- Roxana Rosca
- Ana Tutuianu

A target was set to reduce the number of pupils falling below 85% at Monthly Attendance Audits and this was met.

Although our attendance remains below the Northern Ireland Average it is still an area to be celebrated given our high level of Free School Meals. Parents/guardians are to be thanked for ensuring that their children are in school every day. Staff are also to be commended for their part in ensuring good attendance. Attendance levels are proof that pupils want to be in school every day because staff are making their educational experience motivating, interesting and meaningful.

## **Punctuality**

Punctuality continues to be good for the vast majority of pupils and we commend parents and pupils for this. There are however still a significant minority of pupils whose punctuality needs to improve and we would ask you to co-operate with us on this as pupils arriving late, is not only detrimental to their education but disrupts the education of others.

## **Partnership with Parents**

Links between the school and parents which are vital, continued to be fostered and encouraged in various ways during the 2019 - 2020 year:

Nursery and Year 1 Induction was very different because of Covid-19 restrictions.

All parents were kept up to date with happenings in school through monthly News Sheets, monthly Nursery News Letters and Topic Sheets, School Website, The School App, See Saw, Google Classroom, email and text messages.

Other Information Sheets and Permission Notices were issued regularly as and when required.

Formal Parent/Teacher Meetings were held in October but not March due to school closure.

A written Annual Report was issued to all Year 1 – 7 pupils and a Nursery Transition Form to all Nursery pupils in June.

Parents were able to make an appointment to speak to staff when required.

**The Board of Governors, Principal and staff would like to take this opportunity of thanking all parents for the valuable contribution that they made in supporting the school during 2019 - 2020.**

## **Community Links**

At Ballyoran Primary School we believe that the link with the local community is vital. This relationship is a two way process, the school reaches into the community and the community is welcomed into school.

The following are some of our community links from last year:

- Community Learning Centre hosts a Blossom Sure Start ‘In Tune’ programme for 2 year olds.

- Pupils had opportunities to take part in a wide variety of educational trips to local facilities.
- Regular use of community facilities e.g. Cascades Swimming Pool.
- Represented on the Local Neighbourhood Renewal Committee.
- Supported the local Community Association – Drumcree Community Trust as part of their Summer Programme through use of facilities.
- Links with other local Primary and Post primary schools through an Extended Schools’ Cluster.
- Strong Shared Education partnership with Bocombra Primary School.
- Links with local Tir na nOg GFC
- Strong links with local PSNI Neighbourhood Policing team who came into school on numerous occasions to speak to pupils e.g. Firework Safety.
- The Choir sang at Rosemount Care Home and St John’s Church at Christmas.
- Strong links with local church in particular with reference to First Holy Communion and Confirmation.
- Links with other local agencies: Education Welfare Service, Social Services, School Nurses, Council etc.
- Competitions e.g. Credit Union.
- The Nursery continued its strong links with the local Sure Start Speech and Language team and ‘Jo Jingles’.
- Links with business and enterprise as part of the Young Enterprise Programme.
- Use of Website – [www.ballyoranps.com](http://www.ballyoranps.com).

### **Student Placements**

During the year the school welcomed students in completing various courses/degrees as well as work experience.

### **Charity**

The school continued its fundraising for a number of charities and would like to thank staff, pupils, parents and friends of the school for their support and generosity.

### **Book Fair**

From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 we held our annual Travelling Book Fair in our Central Library Area. There were over 300 titles to choose from and book prices started at £2.00. There was also a colourful selection of posters and stationery, always very popular. Year 7 pupils really enjoyed the experience of organising and running the Book Fair which was a great success.

### **Playground Friends**

Playground Friends continued their valuable work this year. The children applied in September and after some training with Mrs Martin, they were ready to start.

### **Inclusion and Diversity**

We are an inclusive school and highly respect the cultural diversity within our school community. Newcomers continue to settle in the local community and our enrolment includes a significant number of pupils from other countries including Portugal, Poland and Lithuania.

The school receives a significant amount of extra funding for its Newcomer pupils. To celebrate the fact that we are a diverse and inclusive school, on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 we marked European Day of Languages.

### **First Holy Communion and Confirmation**

Year 7 pupils were prepared for Confirmation which took place in March. We are grateful for the pastoral support of our Chaplain Canon Michael Toner for his assistance in the organisation of the various celebrations.

First Holy Communion was postponed due to the pandemic.

### **Shared Education**

Shared Education has been defined as education that will provide opportunities for children and young people from different community backgrounds to learn together. The school continues to enjoy the Shared Education Programme with our partner school Bocombra Primary School. The programme was curtailed greatly due to the pandemic.

### **Healthy Kidz**

All primary pupils now benefit from the Healthy Kids programme. Sessions included an initial assessment in week one and a further assessment in the final week to ascertain the level of progress. Central to the Healthy Kids programme was the Golden Mile where the pupils were encouraged to complete a circuit over a period of 15 minutes of either walking or running. The aim was very much to improve each pupil's level of fitness. The Key Stage 2 pupils were extremely enthusiastic in their use of the Healthy Kids app. Healthy Kidz sessions moved online during the school closure.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

The School's programme of extra-curricular activities was curtailed due to the pandemic. The Board of Governors would like to thank all the staff involved in the above activities for their commitment and dedication shown during the 2019 - 2020 school year.

### **Extended Schools**

The school again was fortunate to receive funding as part of the Department of Education's Extended Schools Programme whereby schools are encouraged to extend their activities beyond the normal school day. Many activities including Breakfast Club and Reading Partnership were possible because of this funding:

As well as our own school activities, the school is also the Lead School in an Extended Schools Cluster of Nursery, Primary and Post Primary schools.

### **Competitions**

During the 2019-2020 school year, pupils enjoyed taking part in Art Competitions including the Credit Union Poster Competition, the school's Christmas Card Competition and an Anti-Bullying Poster Competition.

### **Healthy Breaks**

Ballyoran Primary School is a Health Promoting School and has operated a Healthy Breaks Policy for many years. Nursery and Foundation Stage pupils are provided with a healthy snack each day by the school. Pupils in Years 3 – 7 are responsible for bringing in a healthy snack each day. The school also continued to offer pupils the opportunity to buy milk as part of the European Milk Subsidy Scheme.

### **School Leavers**

Nineteen Year 7 pupils left Ballyoran Primary School at the end of June 2020, transferring to the following 5 post primary schools:

St Catherine's College	3
St Patrick's Academy, Dungannon	1
St John the Baptist College	13
St Ronan's College	1
New Bridge Integrated College	1

The Board of Governors are sad that their last year of primary schools was cut so cruelly short because of the pandemic and wishes these pupils well for the next stage of their education and thank them for all that they have contributed to Ballyoran Primary School during their time here.

### **School Finance**

#### **LMS Budget - Financial Year: April 2019 – March 2020**

With the introduction of Local Management of Schools (LMS), each school receives an annual budget, which is largely based on the number of pupils attending the school. Since April 1992 the LMS budget for Ballyoran Primary School has been fully delegated to the Board of Governors.

Please note that the LMS budget report covers the financial year from April to March as distinct from the academic year from September to June.

School Budget and School Accounts are available on request.

### **School Security**

DENI 1998 regulations require formal information to be presented regarding school security. Please note the following:

- Visitor access control - during school hours all visitors to school must enter by the front door and report to reception, sign the Visitors' Book and get a Visitors' Pass which must be worn at all times.
- The front doors of the School, Nursery and Community Learning Centre are protected by electronic access controls.
- A closed circuit television system operates inside and outside school premises.
- Secure doors and windows.
- Fire Detection Systems - the school is fitted with a fully functional fire alarm.
- Computer security - information held on computer can only be accessed by using confidential passwords.
- All valuable assets are marked with DNA.
- Intruder Alarm - the school is protected by an intruder alarm system.
- Security lights cover the exterior of the building.
- A security fence is in place around the site.

### **School Premises/Accommodation**

Although the day to day management of maintenance issues is delegated to the Principal, each year the Governors carry out an Inspection of Premises. A number of maintenance developments took place during the 2019 - 2020 school year, the most significant one being the replacing of the roof. The Board of Governors wish to place on record its thanks to the Education Authority-Armagh Office, Maintenance Department for all their support in maintaining the premises during the year.

### **School Closures: 2019 – 2020**

#### **Holidays for pupils and staff**

September	-
October	29 - 31
November	1
December	23 – 31
January	1-5
February	17 - 19
March	17

School Closed from March - June 2020 as Exceptional Closures due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

#### **School Development Days – School closed for pupils for Staff Training**

- 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019